

To Whom it May Concern --

I'm in full support of banning assault weapons and high capacity ammunition magazines. I was raised around guns, and have even enjoyed time spent target shooting with my dad and my father-in-law. I believe we have the right to own guns. I DON'T believe we have the right to own assault weapons and ammunition that can cause the mass destruction of human lives in mere minutes, such as the massacre in Sandy Hook. There is no NEED to own that type of weapons. The fact that the weapons used in that attack are legal is truly incomprehensible. If that is not a wake up call to our state and to the nation, I honestly don't know what is.

I want to see common sense laws without any loopholes. If we can ban smoking in public buildings because of the dangers of secondhand smoke; if we can ban the use of cellphones while driving (without a hands-free device) because of the dangers involved; if we can mandate the use of seatbelts for safety purposes; if we can ban texting while driving because of the dangers; and countless other common sense measures and laws designed to keep us safe, then surely we can ban military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines...aren't they as dangerous?! We've seen first hand here in Newtown that they are beyond dangerous. We've seen first hand the brutal destruction and anguish they can cause. That these weapons are LEGAL and readily available is ludicrous. Not only should there be a ban on future sales, I think ownership of them should be illegal period. Is it the entire solution to all of the issues at hand? No. Is it a good start? Absolutely.

Sincerely,  
Sue Duval